

The Spirit

Volume VI Number 3

DECEMBER 2009

JOB AND INTERNSHIP FAIR HELPS STUDENTS FACE FUTURE *Sputtering Economy Means Jobs Will Be Scarce*

By Jaclyn Verbil

The figures tell only part of the story: 10.2% unemployment on the national level, a horrifying 15% unemployment rate in New York City. Yes, the job market has tanked all across the country, and for seniors ready to enter the world of work, that means grim news.

Ever trying to be of assistance to its students, the Office of Career Development, Wellness and Disability Services held its annual Job and Internship Fair on Wednesday, November 4th between 12 PM and 2 PM in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall.

Students from all four classes were welcome to attend and gather information about jobs and current internship positions that are available.

Over twenty companies and organizations were present for the event including Therecare Inc., U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, Americare, American Cancer Society, Coalition of Concerned Legal Professionals, NY Life Insurance, Robert Hall International and many others.

Representatives spoke to students, gave them applications for intern-

ships, discussed the scope and configurations of their respective organizations, and were candid with students about employment possibilities.

"This was a good opportunity to start putting myself out there," said senior Yamile Laguerra.

But seniors were not the only students who took advantage of the opportunity to learn about jobs. Freshman Cynthia Duran said, "This fair represented an opportunity that opens many doors in the future."

New York City has all but frozen hiring of new teachers unless they are fully certified in Special Education or math and science. For that reason, prospective teachers came to the fair looking for alternate job possibilities in case positions are not available in September.

Transfer student and sophomore Elienne Joseph remarked that she learned a great deal and gained valuable insight into the job-searching process, but she wished there were more job openings or volunteer positions for Child Study majors.

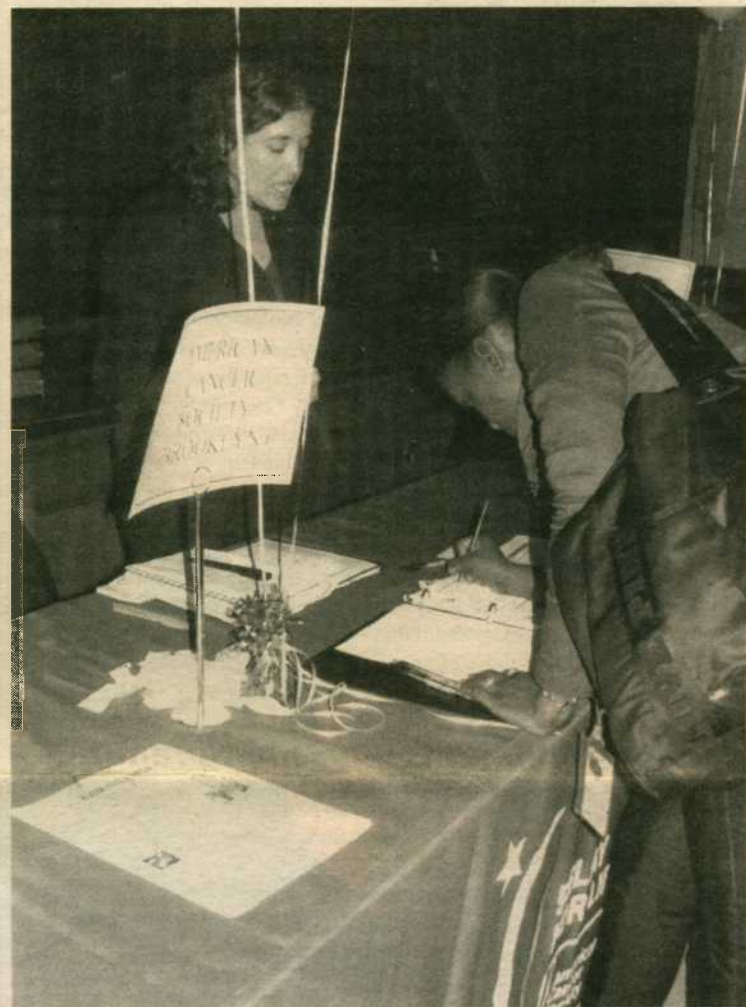
The importance of internships was stressed by almost every recruiter who came to the fair.

"I tell my Communications for Professionals students that being able to list an internship or two on a resume opens an entire new dimension for Human Resources people looking to hire workers who have some experience in the field," said Dr. Howard Weiner.

It is definitely a seller's market and is likely to be for the foreseeable future. Anything that can enhance a resume or create talking points at an interview could give a new graduate an edge when it comes to getting the job of their choice, suggested Dr. Weiner.

It is never too early to start to put together a resume which includes internships. Students who are interested should stop by the Office of Career Development on a regular basis to see what new internships are available.

Read the papers daily and the news seems almost uniformly glum. But that does not mean that young people are not being hired, even by middle sized corporations. It is a matter of getting out there, searching the web and attending fairs like St. Joseph's so you can make informed career and professional choices.



Students Sign in at the Job and Internship Fair



Prospective Students Head for Tuohy Hall at Open House



Clinton the Bear Makes New Friends at Open House

BIG OPEN HOUSE = BIG NUMBERS

By Daphnie Bordes

It seems as though the semester just started—and already, the Admissions Department is planning for next September's arrival of the Class of 2014.

It all began with the first Open House of the semester, which took place on Sunday, October 25th from 12-3 PM, though the planning for the event started months earlier.

Over 165 prospective students from area high schools showed up to get information about St. Joseph's College and they were treated to a host of activities to make the school familiar to them.

The candidates for application were greeted by College President S. Elizabeth Hill and by Academic Dean S. Margaret Buckley who spoke about the advantages a school like St. Joseph's has to offer. Vice president for Enrollment Management and organizer of the event Theresa LaRocca-Meyer also welcomed the students and told them that the full staff of the Admissions Department

would always be available to assist them and answer their questions.

Kiva James, a member of the Parent Advisory Board, addressed the group and gave her views of the school from a parent's perspective.

The high schoolers also got to hear about life at St. Joseph's from students who were not too far removed from where they now sat. Jacklyn Collins, Jenna DeFillippo, Marlena Dobuler, Regina Normil and Avuke Ukiri gave a student's eye-view of student life and activities.

"We do not have an exact number that reflects the number of applications we get from students who attend Open House," said Assistant Director of Admissions GraceMarie Varone, "but our impression is that the percentage is quite high," she added.

Also in attendance at Open House was the Student Ambassadors Club. The Ambassadors mingled with the students and their parents, answered questions about student life and later in the afternoon led tours of the campus.

Virtually all of SJC's clubs and

teams were represented at Open House and there were performances by the Step Team, the Dance Team and the SJC Choral Society. The Open House is the major recruiting event of the term. After the October event, there are 'mini' open houses in November and December which are basically student tours of the campus.

Faculty advisers were set up in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall to discuss majors, minors and courses of study with the students.

Typical questions involved the cost of school, the availability of sports programs, what SJC students actually think about the school, and what student life will be like for commuters and residents in the dormitory.

"We feel that at Open House, we put our best foot forward and make a case for how good St. Joseph's is as an institution of learning," said Assistant to the Vice-President, Janine Farraj. "I think that one reason we have been attracting such large classes is that we make such a great presentation at Open House," she added.

EDITORIAL

DON'T FORGET THOSE STILL ON THE LINE

This is the gun line. It looks out on a landscape bleak enough to be on the moon or on some other alien world. Mountainous, colorless, danger looming behind every crag, every boulder, every rise in the terrain, it is the home to a company of American soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division... This is home for them for the term of their deployment. This is what was called during the Vietnam War, 'in-country,' or more familiarly, 'Indian territory.'

Unlike that war in America's distant past—some thirty-five years ago now, this is an army not made up of conscripts. This is an all-volunteer armed forces, made up of 19 and 20 year olds who signed on the dotted line knowing what it could and later would mean: a trip to a place that would make some of Dante's deeper circles of hell look like Disneyworld.

They signed on for a variety of reasons: educational opportunities, career training, a more disciplined way of living their lives. Many even signed on for the most noble reasons of all: God and Country. The motto of the United States Military Academy is "Duty, Honor, Country." These men and women recognize their duty, understand the concept of honor, and bring a love of country to their jobs that few of us can ever appreciate.

They ask little of us. Decent food, good equipment, first rate medical care to treat their wounds. They know that very few Hollywood types will pay them a visit this Christmas season to raise their morale. Afghanistan is, after all, a rather inhospitable place. Few enough Congressmen make the arduous journey to bolster their spirits. Certainly the pampered divas and matinee idols of the entertainment industry who dine regularly at Spago and Wolfgang Puck's have no desire to sample the cuisine that they must eat day in and day out: MREs (Meals Ready to Eat).

But they do want something. They do want to know that their Commander-in-Chief, their Congress and even the American people are behind them and that they understand the stakes in this deadly corner of the world. They want to know that if they request armor for their HUMVEES, to deflect IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices) that have killed so many of their comrades—that *someone* back home is listening.

They want to know that when they get home, their injuries will be attended to with the same care as the most affluent CEO receives in the exclusive private hospitals they utilize. They want to know that their congressmen will not curtail their benefits under the G.I. Bill of Rights in the name of fiscal responsibility—not when these same congressmen raise the budget deficit to 1.6 trillion dollars.

They want to know that *someone* back home realizes that they too have families that might need assistance and care in their absence—that their government has provided that assistance not as a public relations move, but because it is the right thing to do—and because these are the noblest young people our country has produced.

This is the gun line. It is almost Christmas in the world's bleakest place. For the Marines and soldiers on the gun line, a USO show headlined by a Bruce Springsteen or a Rihanna is little more than a pipe dream. The best they can hope for is a tepid holiday ham or turkey chopped in on an Apache—if the Stinger missiles that attempt to bring those aircraft down aren't too thick to make flying unsafe.

Maybe the Red Cross has even flown in some Christmas packages from home—for to the soldiers and Marines on the line, mail is as vital as food or plasma to the wounded. The packages might be battered, but if they close their eyes, they can smell the scent of perfume rubbed onto the flaps of envelopes—or lovingly dripped into a carton.

On the gun line, the words of that saddest of all Christmas songs, "I'll Be Home for Christmas," resonate with every young man and woman: "Please have snow/and mistletoe/and presents on the tree..." Not much to ask, really. But to the jarheads and grunts of the American military, and to all the sailors at sea and airmen on distant bases, little things mean a lot.

This is the gun line. Each day a 'newbie' arrives to stand in the place of a fallen comrade who has either been killed or wounded. For some, if it is a 'million dollar wound,' they are on their way home and will never have to return to this hell again. But for others, the endless patrols, night watches, listening and watching for the Taliban enemy blur to a point where one day is indistinguishable from another. They count the days: 215 and a wake up. 105 and a wake up 34 and a wake up. They monitor their 'short timer's' calendars and check off the days until they return to 'the world.'

It is Christmas on the gun line. Back home, kitchens emit the entire diapason of holiday aromas. Presents are heaped beneath the tree and youngsters squeal in anticipation. But on the gun line, a mortar shell screaming in and the cries of "incoming" replace the cherished sounds of holiday joy.

This is the gun line. Sometime during your holiday celebration, take just a single moment out from the festivities—and remember who gives us the freedom to enjoy such wonderful times. They are still there. On the gun line. Where they always are.



"Wonder if they still know
I'm over here"

The Spirit

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VERBILIZATIONS

By Jaclyn Verbil

DON'T LET THE SWINE FLU KEEP YOU FROM SHOPPING

Just last week my friend called me and asked me to go to the movies with her. Since she was supposed to be babysitting that evening, I asked her why she was suddenly free. Her response was very telling.

It seems that the child she was to babysit for came down with what her parents characterized as 'the sniffles.' Well, this was enough to cause my friend to back out of the job—for fear of catching swine flu.

This is just one of many instances of people not living their lives out of fear of H1N1 Virus.

Since when did the sniffles become a debilitating disease—and, I wondered, since when has my friend become such a drama queen?

I also wondered how much of this swine flu business is inflated by the media. They freely throw around the term 'pandemic' and it's got everyone thinking that this is Europe during the Black Plague or the world in 1919 with the Spanish Flu that killed 22 million people.

In Catholic churches, the drinking of wine has been strictly prohibited until further notice. In schools, children are unable to participate in some classroom activities until they have sanitized their hands with Purell.

I think fear of swine flu has spiraled out of control and has caused much unnecessary fretting, if not pandemonium.

I mean, even here at SJC we have

taken several precautions against the flu by placing Purell dispensers at the entrances to every building and by switching to cans of soda instead of bottles of soda at school events.

Keep your ears open at school functions. *Everyone* is talking about the swine flu. And to think, this is only just the beginning of the actual flu season.

Just the other day, while listening to Christmas music and admiring the half of my house that has already been decked out in red and green decorations since mid-November, I stopped to think about if and how the swine flu would affect the Christmas holiday this year. After only a few seconds of thought, the answer immediately jumped into my junior year-fried-excuse for a brain. The first thing I thought of? The swine flu is going to make it pretty not-so-jolly on those holly-jolly shoppers.

Holiday shoppers probably conform to one of the most accurate and true stereotypes in a world jam packed full of stereotypes. You know the type: the Black Friday shopper who gets up before the rooster has had his breakfast and is on line at the mall ready to stampede like the running of the bulls.

These loonies (pardon my epithet for them) push and shove, irritate and annoy—did I leave anything out to describe these annoying creatures? They will stop at nothing to get that perfect gift—the \$249 30" HD TV at Target or the \$3.00 appliances at Walmart.

They have taken their philosophy

straight out of Machiavelli: the ends justify the means—and if the means involve gouging someone's eye out to get the last X-Box 360, then so be it. Lord help you if you come between them and the last size 10 pair of chocolate UGGs on the shelf; they will come at you like a gladiator fighting for his or her life in the arena.

Want to see what it's like? Take a look at 1996's film *Jingle all the Way*. Even Governor Ahnie gets run over in his quest for a Turbo Man doll for his son. Scuse me—'action figure.'

So with all that swine flu out there—will these crazies still pack the malls? Will they show up with surgical masks on? Will they shop online instead and bypass all that fun?

Put 5000 bodies in the same mall and we are on the front lines for contracting swine flu. The amount of germs flying around a mall would make the Mongol hordes look like a Girl Scout troop.

But despite the dangers, I am almost certain that the mere thought of flu will not put a damper on these intrepid shoppers. They are insatiable, indefatigable, and mostly insane.

So time will tell whether or not the legions of American shoppers will turn out this year, or whether they will shop from home in the comfort of their pajamas and house dresses.

Just some random thoughts to think about during this holiday season. So have a happy holiday and until next year, so long for now.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM THE EDITORS AND STAFF
OF YOUR CAMPUS NEWSPAPER
THE SPIRIT**



Kristen's Endless Playlist

By Kristen McMaster

MUSICAL THEATER A 'GLEEFUL' EXPERIENCE

Ah! Musical theater—what a brilliant form of art and entertainment. But am I one of the few young people left who believe in this?

In the past few years, attendance at Broadway shows has steadily declined, and even as more and more shows close, the ticket prices seem to rise.

Is it possible that Broadway is pricing itself out of the market and is a disappearing artform?

Over the course of my lifetime, I have developed a place in my soul for musical theater. From performing in shows myself and witnessing them on the great stage, I am always in awe of how it all comes together into a wonderful show.

The thrill of live performances, the technical wizardry, the talent from any given show is always so profound.

Even if you don't particularly like a play, you leave with the feeling that you have seen something special, even remarkable.

That is what theater should do—but fewer and fewer people will be able to experience it. Unless you are willing to stand online at TKTS for hours in Times Square, or content yourself with high altitude seating, Broadway theater can be unaffordable to regular people.

I have learned that Broadway is a love it or hate it situation. You either praise the work on stage, or you absolutely loathe it or think it's pretty dumb.

For Broadway's sake, I cannot see someone having an indifferent feeling towards it. To me, it is a display of greatness—and all wrapped in a two hour plus package.

It seems that young America today is in its technology phase, and most people cannot be satisfied with a simple Broadway show. This form of entertainment to them is, I suppose, 'dated,' or for 'old people.'

Well, just let me say, for those who think this way, they are missing out on something! When you see the amazing technical effects in

shows like *Mary Poppins* or *Les Miserables*, you simply have to stare in awe at what creative minds can come up with.

But there is still hope for musical theater for young people, and that can be seen in the realm of television. TV shows today are the entertainment that everyone wants.

This is why I am so glad to see the show *GLEE* meeting with such positive reviews. The Fox network really outdid themselves with this show.

GLEE is about, well, a glee club. The show focuses on the Ohio-based William McKinley High School's show choir or glee club. The club is filled with most of the school's outcasts, and within the group, there are the everyday dramas and battles associated with high school.

But of course, all this comes with the added attraction of musical performances by the group. The music in the show is amazing, drawing tunes from Broadway and even from the pop scene.

So far, music from such shows as *Wicked* and *Cabaret* have been used. Songs by singers Carrie Underwood, Kanye West, and Avril Lavigne are also utilized. Even Madonna has signed over the rights to use her music for the show.

My favorites are the Broadway songs. To me, it is a television revival for Broadway, and kids who view the show are loving the music—not realizing that it comes from Broadway shows.

GLEE even had Kristin Chenoweth, star of *Wicked*, as a guest star. The lead actress in the series, Lea Michele, is a Broadway alum herself, having starred in Tony Award winning musical *Spring Awakening*. She brings a powerful voice from stage to screen, and her co-stars do not miss a beat, singing right alongside her.

With the genius comedy and the extraordinary singing, *Glee* is geared for a bright future, and a great opportunity for the rebirth of a love for Broadway amongst a new generation of viewers.

Fiesta for a Cause Raises Funds for Children

Hispanic and Caribbean Clubs to 'Adopt' Children

By Marsha Desrosiers

What could be sadder than a child who is too poor to get an education and is therefore doomed to a life of poverty?

The students of the Hispanic Awareness Club and the Caribbean Student Association are well aware of how devastating economic conditions can spoil the lives of innocent children, and so they co-hosted a "Fiesta for a Cause" on October 14th during Common Hour in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall.

The purpose of the fundraising event was to earn money to sponsor education for children in Nicaragua. Vice President and Dean of the Professional and Graduate School Dr. Thomas Travis, creator of the sponsorship, is hoping to see deserving children taken out of the public school system and placed into private schools so they can get a better education.

Most of the families of sponsored children cannot afford to send them to private schools and the public school system is underfunded, and indeed, very poor.

"I think the cause is wonderful and seeing as how I am a child study major and like to work with kids, I think this is amazing," said Ariel Bedieu.

The sponsoring group behind the program is the Sutiava Educational Sponsorship.

Anyone who attended the event was asked to provide a minimum \$3.00 donation, so that even if the turnout was relatively low, there would be enough money collected to sponsor at least one child. All proceeds from the event went towards to sponsorship.

"Although the event was a fundraiser, we tried to incorporate different aspects of Hispanic culture into it," said Crystal Tejada. "We had Dominican food from El Cofre, a pinata, which is a Mexican tradition, and salsa which is mostly known for its Cuban and Puerto Rican origins," she added.

The cost of sponsoring a child

for the first year is \$275 and \$225 for the succeeding three years. The extra \$50 in the first year goes towards purchasing a bicycle which the student will use to travel to and from school. The sponsorship requires a four year commitment.

For that reason, there will be additional fundraising events during the school year to help earn sufficient money to meet St. Joseph's commitment to these children.

"The club members hold this sponsorship close to their hearts," said Ms. Tejada. "We are very dedicated to help-

ing these children become educated," she added.

As a result of "Fiesta for a Cause," the Hispanic Awareness Club and the Caribbean Student Association has already earned enough money to sponsor their first child.

"It gives me a good feeling that we are all helping out a child to go to school and it reminds me that not everyone has the opportunities that I do," said Stacey Cious.

The fundraisers will continue until that second child is brought on board as well.



Lily Smulevich and Stephanie Ruiz at 'Fiesta for a Cause'

Tag Making Day Ushers in Holiday Season

By Cory Jones

The first sign that the holiday season is approaching on the Brooklyn campus of St. Joseph's College is the annual Tag Making Day jointly sponsored by the Campus Ministry and Outreach Club and the Child Study Club.

This year's tag making took place on November 10th during Common Hour in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall. This year, so many club members showed up that additional tables had to be set up to handle all the students who wanted to participate.

Tag Making is an activity that sets the stage for the 'Giving Tree' that is erected annually in the main corridor of Tuohy Hall. The tags serve as ornaments and upon each one is writ-

ten the name of an item that will be donated to Brooklyn's Providence House, a shelter for abused women and their children.

SJC has been involved in supporting this organization for years, and the 'Giving Tree' provides major donations for them each holiday season.

Members of the college community take a tag from the tree, purchase the item that appears on it and then wrap it and leave it beneath the tree. All the items are then delivered to Providence House in time for Christmas.

This year's Tag Making Day was a highly organized affair. The auditorium was divided into four stations: cutting, stringing, labeling and decorating. Students at each table handled their assigned duties and then passed the tags

onto the next station.

"I was really impressed by this year's turnout," said Jaclyn Verbil, co-president of the Child Study Club. "Twice as many people came as last year. This was a great way to kick off the holiday season," she added.

Freshman Samantha Schroder, as a new member of the Child Study Club, was attending her first Tag Making Day. "I think it's a very special thing when so many people give up their free time to do something for others," she said. "You have to come away with a good feeling about what we accomplished here today," she added.

Aside from the free lunch served to all who participated, the rewards of the day were felt in the heart—where it counts the most.



Child Study Club Members Making Tags

Fashionistas

By Katrina Rodriguez, Wenilda DeLeon, Mabel Joseph



WHAT A FASHION SHOW!

The Fashion Club has done it again! This year's much anticipated Common Hour Fashion Show was an event not to be missed. Hosted jointly by the Fashion Club and the Caribbean Student Association, the theme of the show was "Haute Couture for Humanity: Art for a Cause."

The glitz, glamour, creativity and energy took place on Wednesday, November 19th in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall and it had all the excitement of a big name designer's fall show.

The Tuohy Hall auditorium was the site of a runway that was constructed for the models to strut their stuff on. The extension to the stage gave the audience a chance to see the models at work close up and showcase their creativity and fashion trends.

It was on this runway that the models were trained how to catwalk by the talented coach extraordinaire, Ms. Abi Yussuf, a graduate of SUNY Old Westbury. Ms. Yussuf dedicated her free time to teach the ladies and gentlemen the secrets of having a fierce walk and the right moves to captivate an audience.

Both the catwalks and the scenes themselves were remarkable on several levels. Everything incorporated into the show and the outfits the models wore was impressive, including shoes, accessories, fabrics and props.

In fact, items not usually associated with runway models were main attractions of the show and

made this year's event even much more unique.

One impressive dress was a heart-shaped tube top dress made out of recycled newspaper! Ruffles were created on the bottom half of the dress by folding newspapers that created creases, which gave it volume and a beautiful flare effect.

There were also skirts made of plastic garbage bags, Fed-Ex packaging material and even a skirt draped with plastic forks that created an amazing texture.

Models also featured cotton candy skirts made of various pink, blue and white ruffles. There was even a bubble gum outfit which included actual bubble gum on the outfit itself. It took days to make and two full bags of bubble gum to complete the final look. Even the shoes were festooned in bubble gum wrappers to give them the perfect effect for the Candyland scene.

Some of the memorable catwalk props included kitchen items like pots and pans, wire cleaning scouring pads and even a rolling pin! Yes, a rolling pin!

If you missed this term's Fashion Show, you really missed an amazing live performance. You can still get a glimpse of Haute Couture for Humanity: Art for a Cause on the school's website at www.flickr.com/photos/rolesena/collections.

Special thanks go to Adriana Dillard, AJ, for recording the Fashion Show, and to Robert Napolitano for photographing it.

Alumni Association Means Networking Opportunities

Active Grads Eager to Meet Current Students

By Kristen McMaster

Every student currently attending St. Joseph's College is a potential future member of the Alumni Association—and what an active association it is!

October 24th saw the group host its annual Fall Luncheon. Graduates from the decades of the '50s through the 2000s were in attendance to mingle, catch up with old friends, discuss old times and find out the very latest about their alma mater.

This year's luncheon was held at the Harvard Club on 44th St. in Manhattan, an elegant and stately venue for such an event. All the guests came dressed in finery as befit the surroundings.

This was the third consecutive year that the Fall Luncheon has taken place and each year seems to find a more dramatic setting, the Harvard Club mirroring the esteemed alumni that filled the room.

The attendees were all accomplished in their fields, and they had an

opportunity to share their memories and experiences with recent grads and current students.

The affair began with a cocktail hour that turned into a meet and greet for old friends and classmates. Then it moved into the dining room for lunch.

The luncheon was accompanied by piano music from St. Joseph's College Choral Society director Lynn Portas who played contemporary tunes and American standards.

The alumni were addressed by college president S. Elizabeth Hill, Director of Alumni Relations Mary Jo Burke Chiara and Brooklyn campus Athletic Director Frank Carbone.

S. Elizabeth and Vice President Chiara greeted the assembled alumni and talked about where St. Joseph's is today and what direction it is moving in.

Frank Carbone discussed the many changes in the athletic pro-

grams at the college. He was also asked to bring along a group of his finest athletes who spoke about themselves and their experiences at St. Joseph's. Included in this group were Edward Han, President of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee,

Alyson Chiarmonte, Jonathan Mendez, John Porcelli, Lisa Scheer, Elizabeth Fiorella, Kristen McMaster and Wilkerson Exantus.

During his speech, Frank gave away T-shirts and pennants—but his big revelation was his announcement of the school-sponsored cross-country bicycle trip.

After lunch, a raffle was held which raised over \$700 for the school, with cash prizes going to the lucky ticket holders.

Following dessert, the alumni went their separate ways, with promises to return next year and to stay active in other Alumni Association events.



The Governing Board of the Alumni Association



Have Rolling Pin, Will Travel – Via FedEx at the Fashion Show



Students and Athletes Introduced to the Alumni

Academic Center Ready to Help at all Times

By Samantha Schroder

It is quite natural to assume that the time to get tutoring is right before midterm or final exams—but that assumption, like many, would be both dangerous and incorrect.

The time to get help in college is the moment you are taught something that you do not fully understand, and for that reason the Academic Center was created at St. Joseph's College to help students solve problems in courses before they reach the figurative point of no return and it becomes too late.

Located in McEntergart Hall on the third floor between the computer labs, the Academic Center at SJC is designed to assist students in virtually every course that they can take at the college.

It is staffed by professional tutors who possess BA, MA and PhD degrees and are experts in their fields. The current cadre of tutors include Karyn Plgrim, PhD, Patricia Hale, M.F.A., Tatek Ewart, M.A., Blair Blanchard, B.A., Jonathan Bucchino, M.A., and Joseph Rogers, M.F.A.

The number of tutors staffing the Academic Center at any given time can vary. Generally, there are two at a time, but if they are both occupied

with other students, awaiting a tutor's availability.

The Academic Center is the brainchild of Janine Latham, Assistant to the Academic Dean. Before it became an actual entity at SJC, it consisted of Ms. Latham sitting at a desk in the library helping students. Then, it became a room with a name and a staff—and it is now a vital part of the academic assistance program at the college.

Ms. Latham has been teaching for over 17 years in England, America, Spain and Egypt. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from the University of Birmingham and a Post Graduate Certificate in Education which she earned at the Institute of Education in London.

"I feel that the Academic Center is going from strength to strength and has become an essential part of the support services St. Joseph's College provides for their students," said Ms. Latham.

Each year, the Academic Center sees over 200 students and assists them in various aspects of their course work. For example, in English, the tutors might be helping students understand grammar and punctuation, analysis of

reading assignments and planning, executing and revising their written work.

Records are kept on every student who attends the Academic Center and there is a tracking sheet to monitor progress. These records become part of the student's file and can be given to the student or a faculty member if requested.

In the current system, students must sign up and make appointments for help at the Academic Center online at www.rich75.com/sicnv.

The hours for the fall, spring and intersession are also available online and may be accessed at: <http://www.sjcny.edu/CampusLife/Brooklyn-Academic-Center-Hours/1064/>

"The new online sign up makes it easier than ever for students to sign up and make appointments with individual tutors," said Ms. Latham. "The professional team working in the Center this semester are working hard at helping all students who come in for assistance," she added.

The trick is to beat the rush and not wait until the last minute to get help. It's at the Academic Center and waiting for anyone who needs it.



Mary-Ann Hassett and Preceptor Edward Harewood

SJC Joins the World of Google

By Jaclyn Verbil

The slogan has been everywhere: pens, bookmarks, flyers, sweatshirts, on Facebook—even on a cake. "SJC Goes Google."

After many long months of anxious anticipation, the switch has finally been made and as of October 29, 2009, all email was switched over from the old St. Joseph's College Webmail system to the new Google mail system.

The switch to the Google email (or gmail) was made for several reasons. First and foremost, Google mail pro-

vides much more storage space than the old system was capable of holding. Secondly, the new system integrates with the many applications or 'apps' that Google offers.

St. Joseph's College is now included in the over six million faculty, staff and students across the country that currently have access to and utilize the Google Apps Education Edition.

Such privileges that users have with this special edition include: document sharing, Google Chat, Google Calendar and Google Docs.

Unlike the apps included in the

regular version of Google Mail, these apps are presented without advertisements and mail is not read by Google.

Students, faculty and staff were given a one month grace period before the new Gmail would replace the old webmail system.

Starting at the very beginning of the year, students were advised to change their passwords to more secure ones and to migrate all of their old mail over to the new system.

So far the transition seems to be running smoothly and SJC is now a part of the Google universe.



Kleedy St. Surin Shows off you Google Sweatshirt

Halloween Bash Spooky Good Fun

By Samantha Schroder

It might not have been exactly 'spooky,' but it was undeniably fun. The on-campus Halloween festivities that took place on October 29th were certainly a hit with Brooklyn students.

Not only did the party feature the traditional decorations associated with the witching festival, but it had some unique twists this year—and we do mean twists!

How often do you get to see a real mummifying competition? Students pairs off with rolls of toilet tissue at their disposal—one being the wrapper, and one, well, the wrappee—or mummy. Round and round the paper went until the happy 'victim' was all but entombed in countless yards of paper.

The contest winners were Shasta Spicer and Nyima Nije.

It would not have been a Halloween Party without a costume parade and competition. First prize went

to Marlina Dabuler in the costume contest. She dressed as Bjork in her infamous outfit from the 2001 Academy Awards. Second place went to Cadina Hicks, dressed up as Sergeant Hicks, and third place was awarded to Jackie Collins, dressed up as the Quailman from the children's show, "Doug."

Music was provided by SJC alumnus Mike Barthelmy, AKA DJ Royale, who played a wide variety of the latest popular music including rap, reggae and pop.

Skeletons, ghosts, tombstones, spider webs, bloody footprints, fog and a boiling cauldron were amongst the decorations that transformed Evodio's Place into a haunted cafeteria.

Add all this to a huge variety of complimentary candy that was distributed, and the party became a trick or treater's fondest dream—or greatest nightmare.

The Tech Department used the

party as an opportunity to distribute Google T-Shirts, to celebrate the college's switching its email service to Google. They also gave out Google pens, bookmarks—and best of all, even a Google cake!

Other prizes given out during the event include Michael Jackson CDs, *Ghostbusters I and II* DVDs, T-shirts, complete *Twilight* book sets, Charlie Brown Halloween DVDs and Grinch DVD.

The Halloween Party was sponsored and run by CAB and it was hosted by Crystal Tejada, On-campus Events Coordinator.

"The Halloween Party was a complete success. Everyone who came had fun and won cool prizes. All the hard work we put into it was well worth it," said Tejada.

The nearly 250 students who showed up to the party would most certainly agree.



Decorated Cupcakes at the Halloween Party



Professor Peter Lin and the Mindfulness Club



The Individualist

By Michael Labeit

THE REAL REASON THE BERLIN WALL FELL

Most adult laymen who, when asked to account for the demise of the wall that separated West and East Berlin, will offer, at best, proximate causes for its collapse. Few understand the fundamental cause that doomed the Berlin Wall and its symbolic referent, the Soviet Union, to the ash heap of history. A brief economic excursus can help us identify the cause of that phenomenon.

Given all of the causes behind the end of Soviet despotism, which met its end emblematically in the popular assault on the Berlin Wall 20 years ago this month, the origin of its termination lies squarely with its socio-economic configuration: socialism. Ironically, it is this economic arrangement that inexorably condemned the Soviet bloc to extinction.

A socialist socio-economic system is one characterized by government ownership of non-human intermediate goods such as land (natural resources and working space) and capital goods (intermediate goods that are themselves produced from other intermediates). Final goods are scarce means that directly satisfy consumer wants; these goods are consumable. Intermediate goods are scarce means that are used to produce other scarce means, either final goods or further intermediate goods.

Under socialism, the central government owns all (or most) intermediate goods permanently; it becomes a legal monopolizer of such goods. As a result, no exchange of intermediate goods may exist. Exchange requires, by definition, two separate property owners.

Furthermore, when exchanges of intermediate goods per se are made impossible, networks of exchanges of intermediate goods are rendered equally impossible. The abolition of intermediate markets has the subsequent effect of eliminating market prices for intermediate goods, market prices being terms of exchange established between traders of goods

and markets.

Indeed, if exchange itself is impossible, then terms of exchange cannot coherently arise. What would these terms be governing?

The self-destructive nature of a socialist order manifests itself as soon as it abolishes intermediate market prices, because such prices make rational economic calculation possible. This refers to the practice of identifying the quantitative difference between the actual costs and revenue of a particular production plan.

Producers exist to satisfy consumer demand and they go about this objective by acquiring and using intermediate goods cooperatively to produce other goods for sale. Acquiring and using intermediate goods is a costly endeavor; the production of a car, for example, requires rubber, aluminum, plastic, electronics, and a fleet of other expensive intermediate goods. In a free market economy, intermediate goods are privately owned and sold, therefore market prices for such goods exist. Car producers, for instance, can compare the prices of different intermediate goods and then choose those production plans that have the lowest costs of production.

However, producers in the Soviet Union were not able to compare varying production plans because intermediate goods were owned by governments and therefore literally priceless. The basic practice of accounting is impossible under a genuinely socialist regime because producers do not know the market prices of those intermediate goods that they use. Nor can producers compare production plans under socialism for the same reason.

The result: chronic shortages for some goods, surpluses for others, an immeasurable level of production inefficiency, and lingering destitution that provoked millions to rebel.

If there is anything to learn from the end of the Cold War, it is that socialism never has and never will work.

New Mindfulness Club Sponsors 'Green Week'

By Jaclyn Verbil

Once again a new club takes its place in the lengthy roster of activities available to the students of St. Joseph's College. Welcome to the Mindfulness Club, a group dedicated to three major goals: cultivating a peaceful mind, developing compassionate behaviors, and generating self-wisdom.

Moderated by Dr. Peter Lin of the Psychology Department, the group immediately set out to practice what it preaches during the college's first ever, campus-wide Green Week, which they sponsored during the second week of November.

The week-long series of events officially kicked off with a special flea market which was held in the St. Angela Hall lounge on Tuesday, November 10 from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

The theme of the flea market was "One Student's Trash is Another Student's Treasure." Students and faculty alike were encouraged to bring in things from home ranging from books to clothing to electronics to whatever, that they no longer wanted. They would then have the opportunity to exchange their items for someone else's.

Students who did not contribute their treasures, but still wanted something to take away from the event,

were able to do so by making a small monetary donation. All leftover items were donated to The Chips Shelter in Park Slope.

Wednesday, November 12 saw the Mindfulness Club hosting their big-ticket event in the Tuohy Hall auditorium during Common Hour. At this event, students were provided with free organic vegetarian food.

Instead of using paper plates, each guest was given a special reusable dish that they could use for the day's lunch and many more to come.

Dr. Lin noted that the purpose of having this type of food at a lunch was to help promote a green Earth.

"One of the many ways that we can help keep the Earth green is by eating less meat," said Dr. Lin.

Entertainment at the event was provided by a band known as Solar Punch. All the electric instruments in the band were solar powered and they sang songs about keeping the Earth green to promote awareness of the environment amongst the SJC students and staff.

Also during the event, there was a showing of the 20 minute short film, "The Story of Stuff." Professor Diane Sherlip of the Psychology Department

spoke to the group briefly, encouraging them to be mindful eaters by thinking about what they are eating and how it is made.

The Mindfulness Club also urged and encouraged the St. Joseph's College community to leave their cars at home for the day and take public transportation instead on Thursday, November 12.

The club also was responsible for the posting of dozens of 'green' facts (which were printed on 100% recycled paper) around the school. These facts presented quick and simple things that students could do to make big changes for the environment.

"I thought the tips gave students great and reasonable ideas that weren't too hard to implement and that would be really helpful to the environment," said junior Rachael Fitzpatrick.

Dr. Lin was extremely pleased with how the events of the week turned out. "I was happy that students are beginning to pay attention to how to make their lives more meaningful," he said. "The most important thing is to live in a meaningful way. Life is like a book and you are the author," he added.

School Pride Galore at Midday Madness

By Nina Zito

Midday Madness, St. Joseph's College's annual salute to its athletes and teams, is one of the major events in the fall calendar on the Brooklyn campus.

Not only is it eagerly anticipated by the participating teams, but the student body in general enjoys the color, the fun and the excitement of the day.

This year's Madness took place on November 13th during Common Hour on the lower level of Tuohy Hall. The 250+ students and staff members who attended were treated to an hour of entertainment by all the participants.

Athletic Director Frank Carbone is the creator of Midday Madness. It is patterned upon Midnight Madness, an event that takes place at large universities and colleges and is the introduction of the varsity basketball teams at the beginning of the NCAA season.

At its inception, that is what Midday Madness was at SJC, but it has grown considerably into a way of introducing other athletic teams besides the varsity Basketball squads. This year, the new Women's Swim Team was introduced.

"Since the Swim Team is new to our school, I was excited that we got introduced to the SJC student body and I hope everyone comes to support us at our meets," said junior swimmer Jenna DeFillippo.

For entertainment, SJC's Step Team, the Royal Steppers, and the Diamonds Dance Team also performed for the crowd.

After the introduction of the Basketball teams, there were two competitions. Participants had to put on a basketball warmup suit, blow up a noise maker, run down the court and make a lay-up. Nina Zito won First Prize—an assortment of SJC apparel—and Kevin _____ won second prize—\$100 in cash.

The second competition required participants to make 3 shots: a lay-up, a 3-pointer and a shot from the foul line.

Then the Men's and Women's basketball teams squared off for their own inter-squad competition to see which team could make 10 free throws successfully. The Lady Bears won!

"Midday Madness is a great way to bring the SJC community together

and show our team spirit and support for our teams," said junior Cory Jones.

Anthony Grasso served as MC for the afternoon's events and music was provided by DJ Royal (Mike Barthelemy, Class of 2009). And Clinton, SJC's new bear mascot, was on hand to mingle with the crowd for photos and fun.

"My favorite part of Midday Madness was when the Swim Team got introduced to the student body and Nina participated in the first competition and won," said sophomore Paige Cardaci.

With free lunch of pizza and soda and loads of giveaways, there was something at Midday Madness for everyone.



The Participants in Midday Madness

THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

Christmas is coming. Do you think it is better to give or receive presents?



It's better to give because giving is the best gift you can receive.
—Robin Darville



It's better to give because of the look on someone's face when you give them a gift.
—Steve Tanamal



It's better to give because you feel better about it in the end.
—Bryanne Matrello



It's better to give this season, because many people don't experience the same joys when they receive.
—Michael Capizzo



It's better to give, because if you give, you will receive in the end.
—Michael Cabral



It's better to give, because it makes you feel like a better person.
—Alyson Chiaramonte



It's better to give because it makes you feel better that you did the right thing.
—Sean Dorso



You get back so much more when you give, so it's better than receiving.
—David Terruso



It's better to give, because since you give, you're able to receive even more and know the feeling of joy.
—Angeline Johnson



It's better to give, because there are less and less fortunate people in the world who want to celebrate the holidays too.
—Lauren Velocci



It's better to give because giving is like karma. Once you give, you can receive.
—Imhotep Taylor



Giving helps other people to feel good about themselves, because they got something.
—Jenn Linehan

Chapel Players Score with Miller Drama

The Crucible Examines With Trials and McCarthism

By Catherine Muldoon

Historical drama or *roman a clef*? This was the question in 1953 when Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* was first produced on Broadway.

Though it takes place in Massachusetts Bay Colony during the years 1692-93, and deals with the Salem Witch Trials, there are unmistakable parallels to the House Committee on Un-American Activities' search for Communists in every aspect of American life.

Those investigations led to the addition of the word "McCarthyism" to the English vocabulary, since Senator Joseph McCarthy played an important part in them.

Not only were Communists sought in the State Department, but in publishing and even the performing arts. Blacklisting was a common practice and notable Hollywood personalities such as actors John Garfield, Gale Sondergaard, director Edward Dmytryk and writer Dalton Trumbo saw their careers either ruined or seriously damaged.

The Crucible became the Chapel Players latest foray into socially conscious theater, having performed *The Laramie Project* last year.

For three days, November 12-14, audiences were treated to performances which highlighted the troubled history of America's colonial past and its equally troubling witch hunt of the 1950's, where the phrase "Better Dead than Red" became almost an American motto.

Before each performance, Director Tom Hoeffner and Assistant Director Adam Mace spoke to about the difficulties in performing such a popular play, and the rewards they experienced with working with such a fine and dedicated cast.

The lead role of John Proctor was performed by Justin Burke (Class of '11) and he brought both passion and intensity to the part.

Equally impressive was Chapel Players newcomer freshman Marlena Dobuler in the role of Abigail Williams. Notable were the facial mannerisms and body language she used to reveal the character's hidden agenda. Her outburst in the courtroom moved both the actress and audience members to tears.

"Justin was amazing in his role as

John Proctor," said Brianne Reilly. "His performance gave me the chills," she added.

Daniel Velez (Class of '11) was very convincing in his role as the Reverend Hale, and he brought a slight touch of humor to the otherwise dour play.

Senior Jaclyn Collins, SGA and Chapel Players President, was also notable as Mrs. Putnam.

During the intermission of each performance, raffles and 50/50 prizes were held, the proceeds of which went to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids.

Miller's play won a Tony Award in 1953 as the year's Best Play, and since then, it has become almost standard reading in high school classes across America.

It's theme of denying due process, religious and political fanaticism, and becoming caught up in the frenzy of the times still resonate in the modern social and political climate of America today.

Chapel Players continues to show that drama can still serve the dual purpose of entertaining while at the same time demonstrating a social awareness.



Abigail Williams Testifies Against John Proctor in *The Crucible*

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

Last chance of the semester to win a \$25 gift card to Best Buy! All you have to do is answer all of the following questions correctly, and be the first one to bring them to the Publications Office (Room 607, St. Angela Hall). Good luck!!

1. This United States Naval vessel was never defeated in battle, having won 23 victories. Name it.
2. What is the most frequently recorded American song in history?
3. What is a *Rana pipiens*?
4. Under the Articles of Confederation,

who was the first President of the United States in Congress Assembled?

5. Who invented the air conditioner?
6. Why is Borley Rectory famous worldwide?
7. Who wrote the American play, *Bus Stop*?
8. Where is the Dwight D. Eisenhower home and museum?
9. What was the standard combat rifle used in the former Soviet Union?
10. The deadliest spider in the world is found in Australia. What is its name?
11. Who replaced Lou Gehrig at 1st base when he ended his consecutive game streak?
12. What were the nicknames of the

following football greats? Eugene Morris, William Perry, Sammy Baugh, John McNally.

13. Who succeeded Winston Churchill a Prime Minister of Great Britain?
14. This U.S. Army general was court marshaled and demoted for advocating the importance of air power in the military. Name him.
15. Who was Archibald Leach?
16. Who commanded the Union army at the Battle of Gettysburg?
17. Paleontologist Roy Chapman Andrews was the model for what famous movie character?
18. On what world renowned rock album would we find "Sloop John B," and "Wouldn't It Be Nice?"

ST. JOSEPH'S SPORTS



THE BERT AND ERNIE OF SPORTS



By Matthew Walsh and Anthony Grasso

WE'RE TALKIN' FOOTBALL!

When the World Series ended with the New York Yankees taking their 27th title, fans switched their mindset from baseball to football. True, the football season actually started in September, but with the excitement of the pennant race, playoffs and series, it was kind of on the back burner.

But now, bloodthirsty fans are up for some hard-nosed football from New York's three professional clubs. Yes, New York has three pro teams: Giants, Jets—and don't forget the far-off Buffalo Bills.

But since they aren't very good, even with Terrell Owens, there won't be a need to mention them again in this column.

Our focus will be the New York Giants and the New York Jets—the teams city people talk about.

The big problem for the Giants is that they hadn't won a game since October 11, and the four losses were real blowouts. They finally copped a win against Atlanta—but it took a field goal in overtime to do it.

The Giants went from first in the NFC East to third after their losing streak, and since they are Bert's (Grasso's) favorite team, it was fun to rub it in every Monday morning on the train ride to school.

Of course, he said it was just luck that Big Blue went on such a cold streak, or that Eli got picked off in the red zone—or that the defense was very sloppy when it gave up 40 points to the hated Philadelphia Eagles.

Then he gave me back as good as I gave him by bringing up Mark Sanchez of the New York Jets. Sanchez is having a horrible season as a rookie, throwing 4 interceptions in a game three times. The Jets managed only 1 win during the same

stretch that the Giants went winless—and against a much softer schedule as well.

Sanchez has a ratio of 16 picks to 10 TD's—not a very pretty stat in anybody's book.

The only bright side to the Jet's defense seems to be Darrell Revis, who stops the #1 receiver on the opposing team every week.

The Jets picked up a great receiver from the Browns, but without a quarterback who can hook up with him, it doesn't do much good.

So imagine Bert and Ernie on the G train every morning, talking sports, fighting over which team is worse. Now *that's* a morning commute!

Two loud kids from Queens heckling each other highlighting the weaknesses of the New York team we don't like.

Our assumptions for the rest of the season are that we believe the Giants will make the playoffs because of their weaker schedule for the balance of the year and the overall weakness of the NFC East.

Besides, we both hate Dallas, so it's always good to root against them. As for the Jets, well, sadly they won't make the playoffs because Sanchez still has a lot to learn as an NFL quarterback.

The spanking they took from the Patriots shows the gap between the two teams. Hopefully, both the Giants and the Jets will figure out how to stop the run and the deep pass.

Keep in mind that spring training for baseball isn't all that far away and their could be some great trades made this winter.

So until the new season starts, cheer for the Giants, Jets, Rangers, Islanders—and even the hapless Knicks and Nets.

Cross Country Team Makes Great Strides in '09 Runners Getting Feel of Conference Competition

By Martin Ukiri

It's a matter of small steps in a sport that features very long races. The 2009 SJC Cross Country team has made huge strides over its 2008 incarnation. It still has a way to go to reach the top of the Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference, but it's headed in that direction.

Despite suffering numerous injuries, The Cross Country team placed higher in conference standings in 2009 than it did in its inaugural conference season of 2008.

Of particular note were two runners, one on the Men's side and one on the Women's side. Javier Bosque, in his first season on the team, had al-

ready begun to eclipse the more seasoned runners and seemed to be on his way to a reputation in the conference. He was named HVMAC rookie of the week twice on two consecutive weeks in September.

But the young runner suffered a cardiac arrest during a practice session and was inactive for the rest of the season, his running career now in a state of doubt.

After that incident, the team seemed to coalesce into a really tight-knit group that comes when a squad undergoes hardships.

On the Women's side, Teresa Mangan also won the rookie of the week title for September 22 and Sep-

tember 29. Mangan came within seconds of finishing in the Top Ten during the Hunter College Invitational Meet, with a time of 29:59.

As a further honor, Coach Scott Gomez was awarded the title of Coach of the Year by the Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference.

"I think this season marks the beginning of a solid tradition of cross country at the Brooklyn campus of St. Joe's," said senior Ed Han. "After the kind of season we had that forced us to come together as a team, I am confident that we have created a solid foundation that will be the basis for great improvements in seasons to come," he added.



SJC Cross Country Runners in the Center of the Pack

Lady Bear Swimmers Win First Meet in Team History

By Catherine Muldoon

The St. Joseph's College Lady Bears Swim Team made quite a splash in their first season as a varsity sport, opening up with a strong victory against the College of New Rochelle on November 6.

The Lady Bears are a team that has overcome adversities at the beginning of the season, not the least of which has been limited facilities in which to practice. The team only had two weeks of preparation before their first meet and no permanent practice schedule or location.

But as the saying goes, *per aspera ad astra*—through adversity, to the stars. The difficulties the Lady Bears faced only served to make them a stronger team.

Seven first place finishes contributed to the win against New Rochelle. Sophomore Kristen McMaster earned first place finishes in 3 of the 4 events she entered. Sophomore Alison Annunziata earned a first in the 200

meter individual medley. Olivia O'Hara won the 100 yard

breaststroke, Brienne Reilly won the 50 yard backstroke, and Elizabeth Fiorella won the 50 yard breaststroke.

But what is not commonly known is that it is the second and third place finishes that really win meets.

Finishes are assigned point values, and the combined scores for a second and third place finish exceed that of a first place.

The increase in the number of girls on the team from last season enabled coaches Lenny Devirgilio and Jennifer Safi to place more swimmers in each event, thus allowing the team to capture the ever important second and third place points.

One of the key additions to the team is freshman Nicolle Velez, who placed third in the 100 yard butterfly and was a part of the winning 200 yard free style relay.

"I really didn't know what to ex-

pect, but I was extremely proud of us," said Nicolle about her first swim meet.

"I thought we did a fantastic job!" said sophomore Lizzy Fiorella. "Everyone showed tremendous spirit and we could not have won without the hard work of every swimmer," she added.

McMaster and Nunziata were named co-captains of the team by coaches Devirgilio and Safi.

The team's season continues with an away meet in Maryland against the College of Notre Dame. Then it returns home for two meets at Brooklyn Tech High School. The final meet of the season is against Old Westbury, a team which the Lady Bears beat handily last year.

From a handful of swimmers, the Lady Bears have become a team to reckon with in the conference. The recruiting of still more experienced swimmers will make them an even more formidable group.



Catherine Muldoon and Alison Nunziata in 200M vs. Old Westbury